Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary Long Leaf Pine Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Long Leaf Pine Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes O or No O
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes O or No O
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes O or No O
3. c.Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes O or No O
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes O or No O
4. c.Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health: – Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b.Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes O or No O
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes O or No O

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	
Energy Conservation—Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the "EQIP Plan of Operations" result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application pertain to land that is contiguous to a protected area such as a National Forest, Military Base, National Wildlife Refuge, State Forest, Heritage Reserve, or land protected by a perpetual conservation easement (e.g. WRP, FRPP, GRP, TNC)?	Yes O or No O
2. Is the field (acreage) where practices installation will take place located within a state designated priority county (or counties). List of State priority counties	
3. Will offered area connect two or more blocks of londleaf pine?	Yes O or No O
4. Are the offered acres adjacent to an existing longleaf pine ecosystem?	
5. Does the applicant have a conservation plan at the time of ranking that addressed the resource concerns that will be addressed through this application/contract?	
6. Does EQIP plan schedule of operations provide for implementation of all funded practices within 3 years or less?	
7. Has the applicant ever terminated an EQIP contract?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions		
EXISTING LONGLEAF PINE (If this criteria is met, answer "YES" to only one of the following questions 1, 2, or 3).		
1. Is 50% or greater of the existing woodland acreage consist of Longleaf Pine?	Yes O or No O	
2. Is 10 - 49% of the existing woodland acreage consist of Longleaf Pine?	Yes O or No O	
3. Is 0 - 9% of the existing woodland acreage consist of Longleaf Pine?		
PLANNING ESTABLISHMENT OF LONGLEAF PINE (If this criteria is met, answer 'YES' to only one of the following questions 1, 2, or 3).		
1. Once the planned contract is implemented, will 50% or greater of the planned woodland acreage be predominately Longleaf Pine?		
2. Once the planned contract is implemented, will 10 - 49% of the planned woodland acreage be predominately Longleaf Pine?		
3. Once the planned contract is implemented, will 0 - 9% of the planned woodland acreage be predominately Longleaf Pine?		
LONGLEAF TREE ESTABLISHMENT		
1. Will longleaf pine be established (planted) at a spacing of less than 500 trees/ac (planted rate) on the majority of the planted offered acreage, AND will permanent Firebreaks (394) be maintained according to NRCS standards and specifications?		
2. Is the soil classified as moderately well or well drained on the proposed Longleaf planting area Page 2 of 3	Yes O or No O	

(majority of the planted area)?	
OTHER MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	
1. Will Longleaf pines be planted on previously cut over acreage (any approved spacing below 726TPA) on the majority of the offered acreage?	
2. Is the applicant applying for tree planting, due to their loss of newly planted trees during recent drought and/or other natural disaster (verified by NRCS or professional forester)?	
3. Will Prescribed Burning (338) be scheduled during the contract period?	
OTHER QUESTIONS	
1. Has the applicant self-certified as a historically underserved farmer?	
2. Is the land enrolled in a USFWS Safe Harbor program?	

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
Ranking Score	
Efficiency:	
Local Issues:	
State Issues:	
National Issues:	
Final Ranking Score:	

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: